

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the time and courtesies extended by the Examiner toward Applicants' representatives during the personal interview of April 20, 2007. Claims 109-116 were discussed during the interview. Applicants proposed amending the claims to recite wherein the claimed antisense compounds comprise no more than one mismatch with respect to nucleotides 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the proposed amendment would potentially put the instant application in condition for allowance. However, in the interest of expediting allowance of the instant application, Applicants have elected to pursue the subject matter of the proposed claims in a continuing application.

Status of Claims

In the Final Office Action dated April 9, 2007 (Office Action), the Examiner allowed claims 125-145 and claims 197-215. The Examiner rejected Claims 109-116 and found claims 117-124 allowable, if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 109 and any intervening claims. Office Action at page 7.

Following entry of the amendment submitted herewith, Claims 125-145 and 197-212 will be pending in the application. Claims 109-123 and 213-215 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-108 and 146-196 remain canceled.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants would like to draw the Examiner's attention to the Amendment to the Specification included with the response filed January 10, 2007 (Response). At page 2 of the Response, Applicants amended the first paragraph of the specification to clarify the statutory basis for claiming priority to PCT Application US03/15493; this amendment was further indicated on the Application Data Sheet provided with the Response.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the Amendment to the Specification included with the response filed January 10, 2007.

Correction of Inventorship

Additionally, Applicants would like to draw the Examiner's attention to the Correction of Inventorship under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b), provided with the Response filed January 10, 2007. Applicants requested deletion of named inventors Kristina Lemonidis and Kenneth Dobie because they are not inventors of the invention as presently claimed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the Correction of Inventorship filed January 10, 2007.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants provided a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, in connection with the instant application, on June 27, 2006. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references listed therein.

Applicants provide herewith an additional Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, and respectfully request that the Examiner consider the references listed therein.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 109-111 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Jarvis et al. The Examiner asserted that Jarvis et al. disclose a nucleotide sequence of 14 base pairs in length that hybridizes to at least 8 contiguous nucleobases of nucleotides of 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3 of the instant application, and further that the sequence of Jarvis et al. comprises no more than two mismatches within nucleotides 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3. Without acquiescing to the rejection, and solely to advance prosecution, claims 109-111 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 109-114 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (a or e) as allegedly anticipated by Kazemi et al. The Examiner asserted that the sequence of Kazemi et al., AGGCTCAGTCTGCTG (SEQ ID NO: 46), hybridizes to at least 8 contiguous nucleobases of nucleotides 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3 of the instant application, and further that SEQ ID NO: 46 comprises a single mismatch within nucleotides 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3. For the

purposes of clarity and to maintain an accurate record, Applicants note that SEQ ID NO: 46 of Kazemi et al. has at least two mismatches within nucleotides 3249-3268 of SEQ ID NO: 3 if Y is T, or three mismatches if Y is C. Without acquiescing to the rejection, and solely to advance prosecution, claims 109-114 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

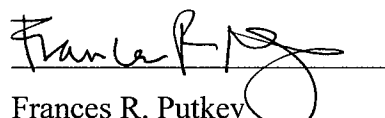
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 109-116 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kazemi et al. in view of Dempcy et al. and Simeonov et al. See Office Action at page 6. Without acquiescing to the rejection, and solely to advance prosecution, claims 109-116 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided. Favorable consideration and an early notice of allowance are respectfully requested.

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